

BEOWULF

An Oral Interpretation
Using Paralanguage

British Literature

ORAL INTERPRETATION

- The process by which a speaker performs literature aloud for an audience
 - Scops (Anglo-Saxons)
 - Bards
 - Minstrels

PARALANGUAGE

- PARALANGUAGE: Nonverbal communication which consists of the ways in which you say words
 - Volume: how loudly or softly you speak
 - Pitch: how high or low your voice sounds
 - Speaking rate: how fast or slowly you speak
 - Stress (created by volume & pitch)

ASSIGNMENT

- Beowulf was often recited by professional storytellers as a means of entertainment
- Prepare your own dramatic reading of a passage from Beowulf
- Incorporate **paralanguage** to add interest and suspense to your reading:
 - Speed up or slow down your speaking rate
 - Increase or decrease your volume
 - Raise or lower your pitch
 - Stress important words as you read

RUBRIC: 25 TOTAL POINTS

Accuracy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Proper pronunciation</i>• <i>Attention to punctuation (accurate pauses)</i>	5 points
Volume <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Vary how loudly or quietly you speak to create mood/tone</i>• <i>Speak loud enough to be heard by class</i>	5 points
Pitch <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Vary how high or low you speak to create mood/tone</i>	5 points
Speaking Rate <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Speed up or slow down for mood/tone</i>	5 points
Stress <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Stress words/phrases for importance</i>	5 points